THE TALKING MOTHER GOOSE™ Fairy Tales

Beauty and the Beast

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Beauty and the Beast

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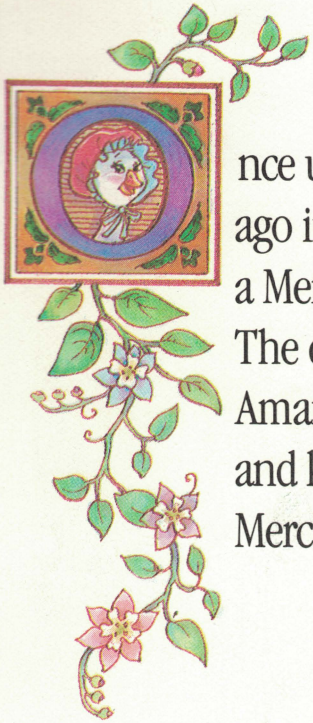
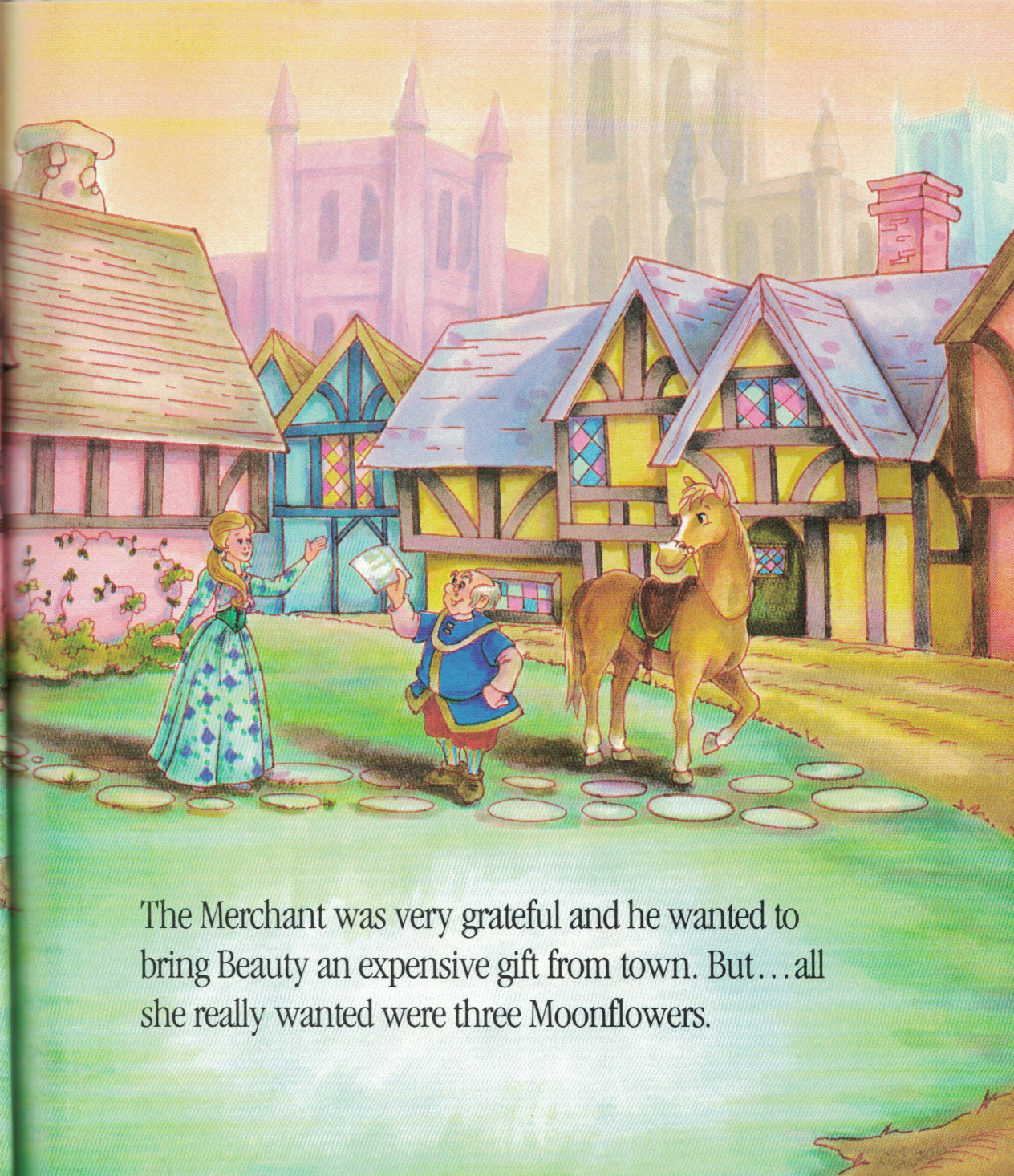


nce upon a time, long, long ago in a far-off land, there lived a Merchant and his daughter. The daughter's name was Amanda, but she was so lovely and kindhearted that the Merchant called her "Beauty."

One day the Merchant's work required him to travel to a far-off town. But when he went out and about, he often managed to get himself lost. So Beauty made her father a map.



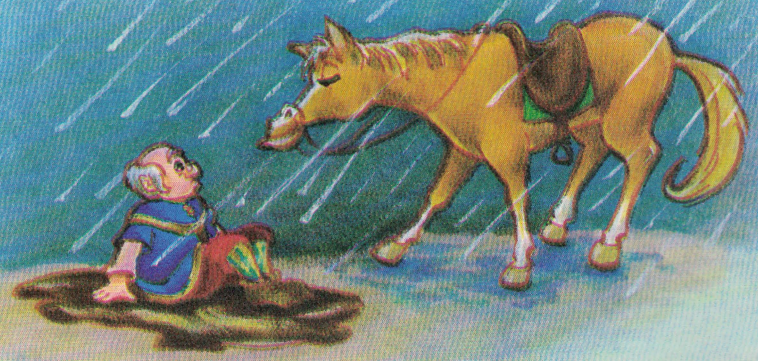
The Merchant was very grateful and he wanted to bring Beauty an expensive gift from town. But…all she really wanted were three Moonflowers.

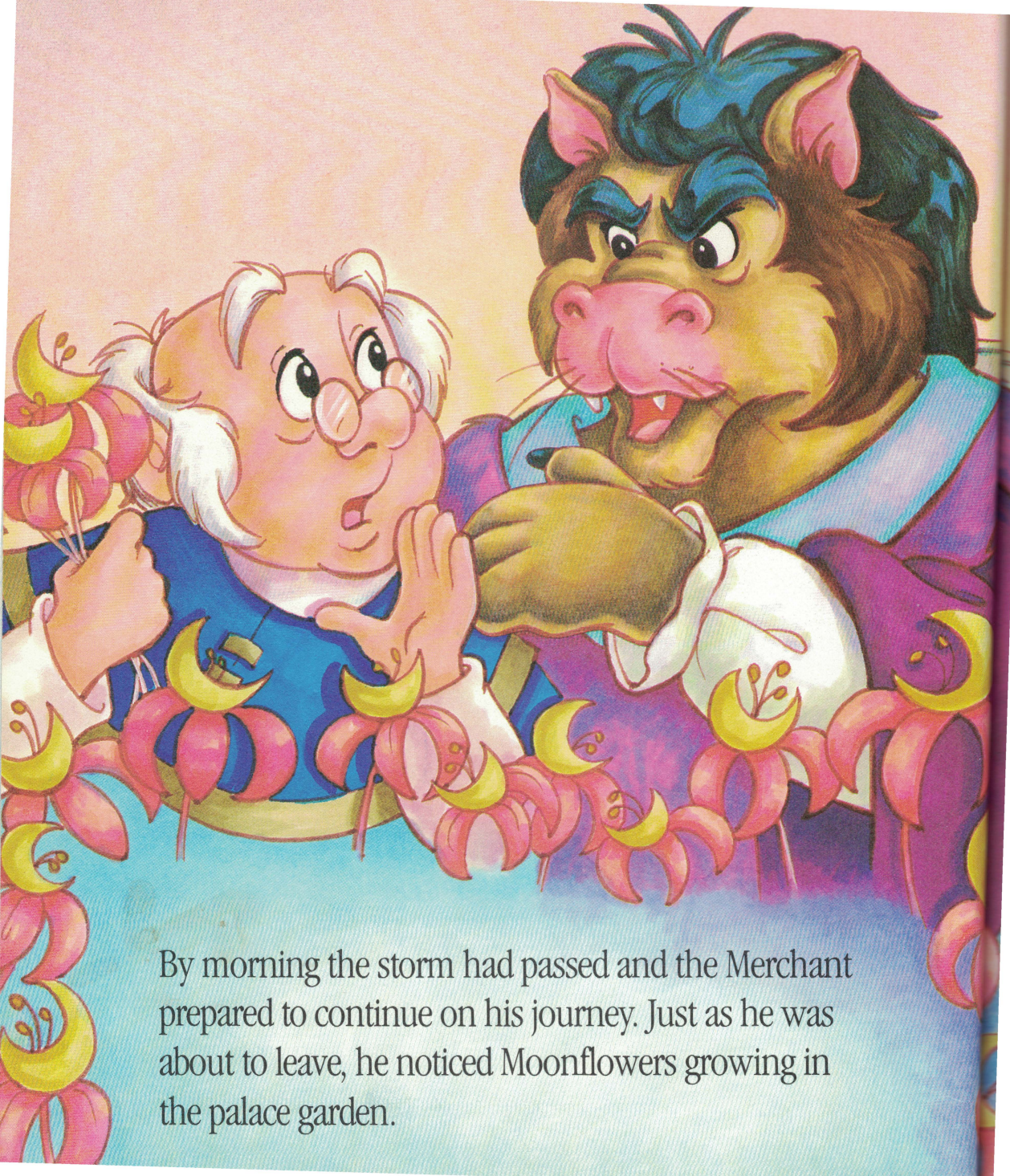
So the Merchant set off. But in spite of Beauty's map, he got terribly lost.

A storm was rising, and night was falling, and so was the Merchant... right off his horse!

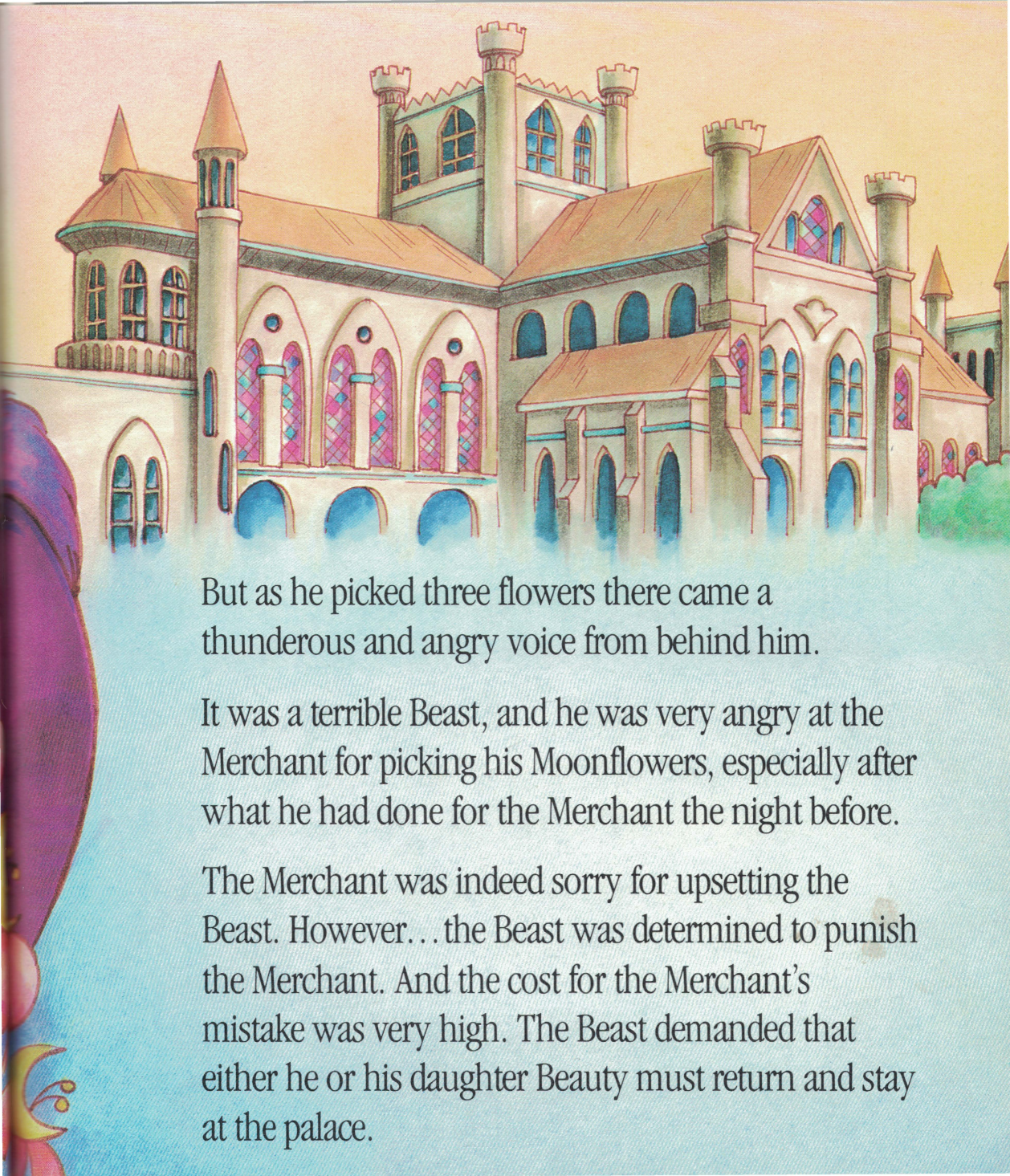
Just when all seemed hopeless, he came upon a grand palace. The Merchant stepped inside and called out, but there was no one there.

In one room there was a crackling fire, and dry clothes just his size, and a fine hot meal, and a nice warm bed. The Merchant decided that all these things must be for him. And so he spent a very comfortable evening at the palace.





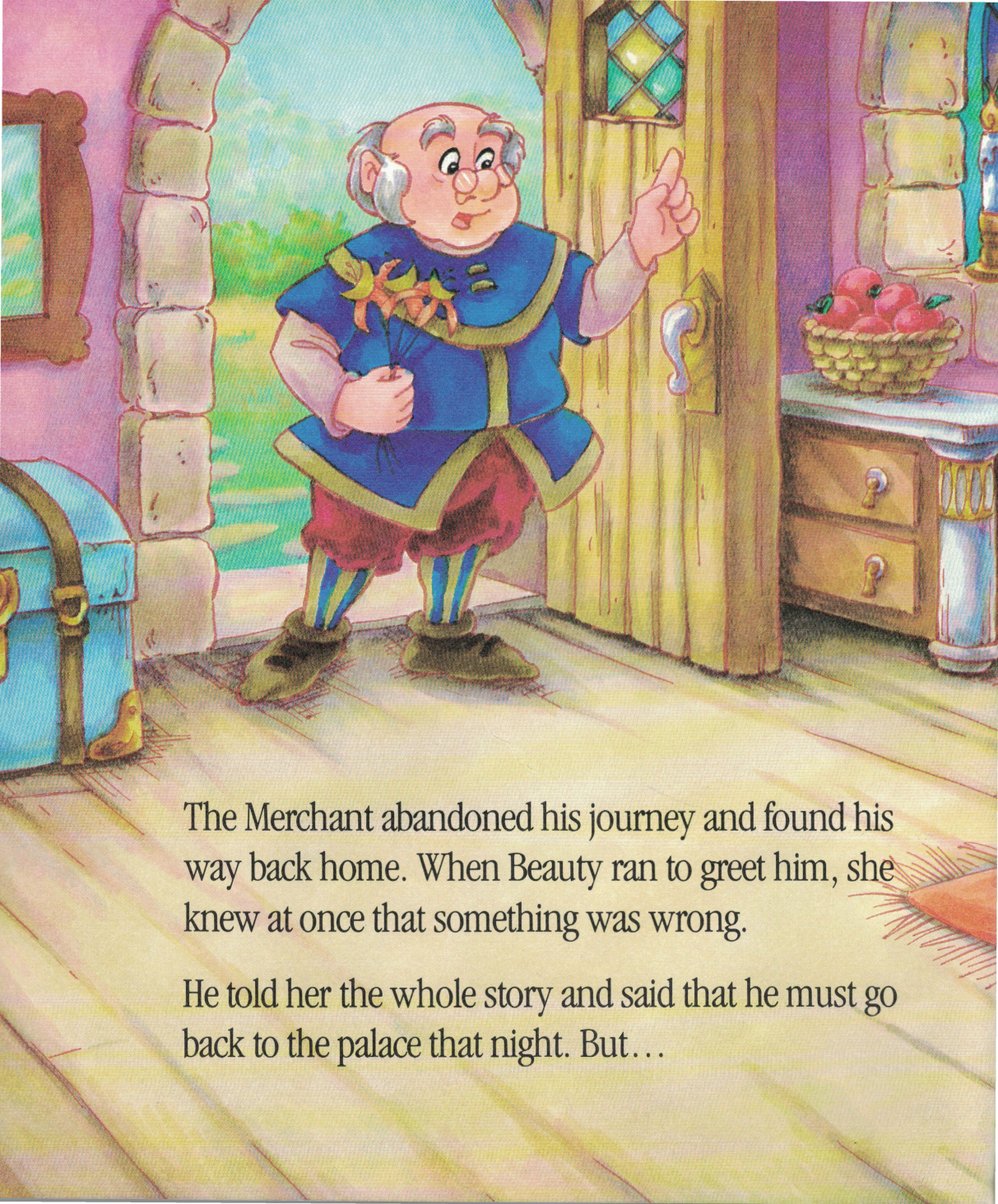
By morning the storm had passed and the Merchant prepared to continue on his journey. Just as he was about to leave, he noticed Moonflowers growing in the palace garden.



But as he picked three flowers there came a thunderous and angry voice from behind him.

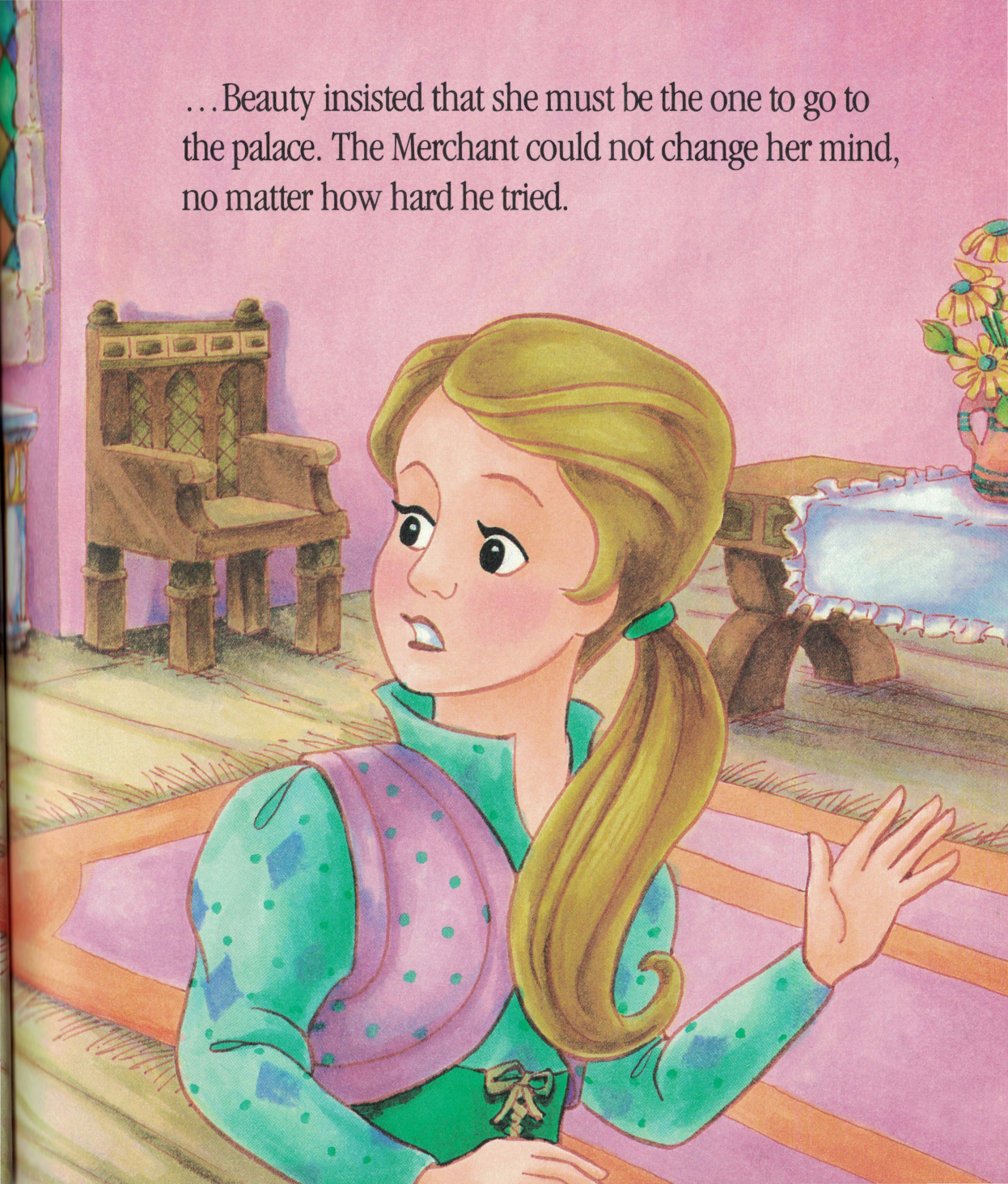
It was a terrible Beast, and he was very angry at the Merchant for picking his Moonflowers, especially after what he had done for the Merchant the night before.

The Merchant was indeed sorry for upsetting the Beast. However... the Beast was determined to punish the Merchant. And the cost for the Merchant's mistake was very high. The Beast demanded that either he or his daughter Beauty must return and stay at the palace.

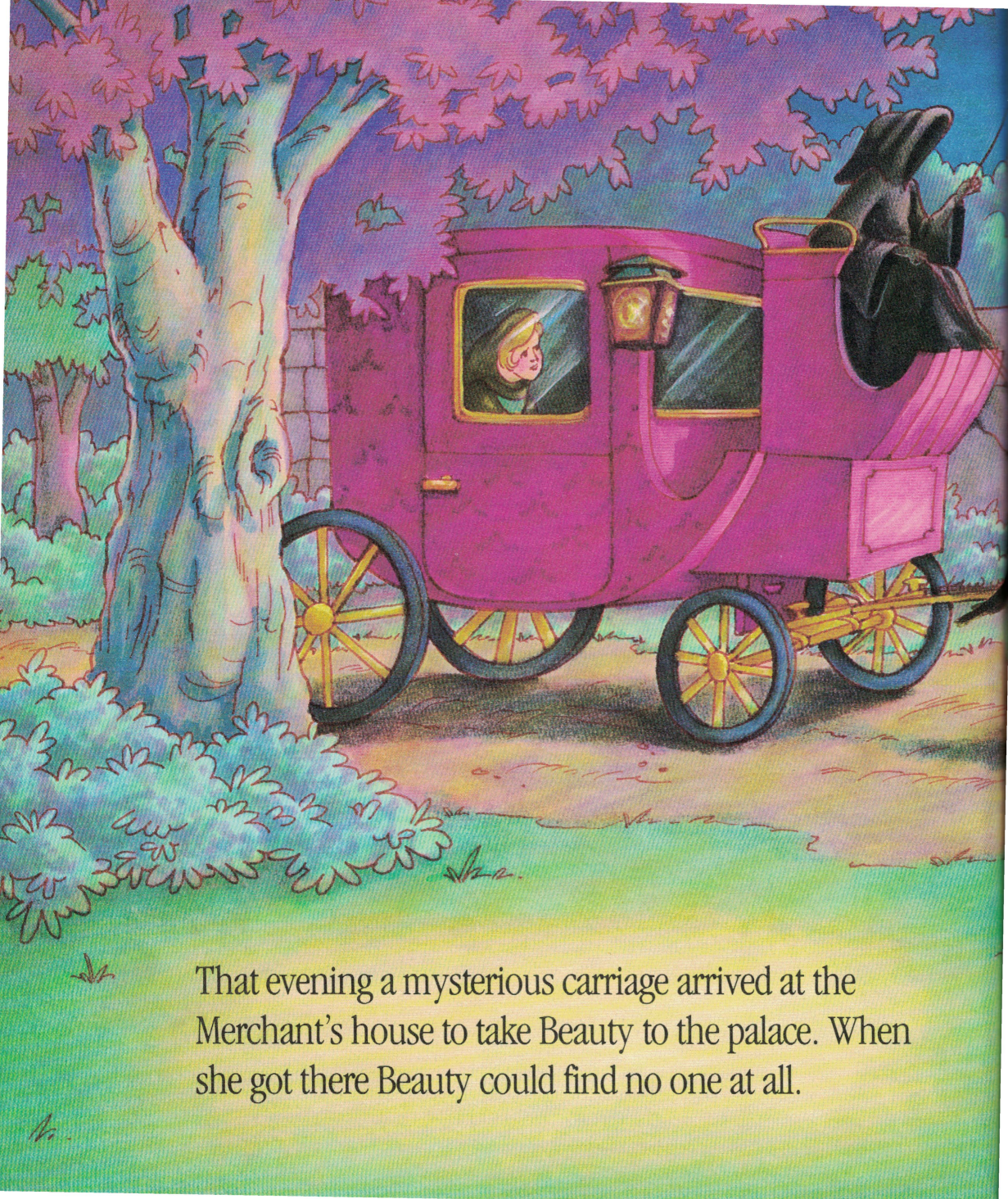


The Merchant abandoned his journey and found his way back home. When Beauty ran to greet him, she knew at once that something was wrong.

He told her the whole story and said that he must go back to the palace that night. But…

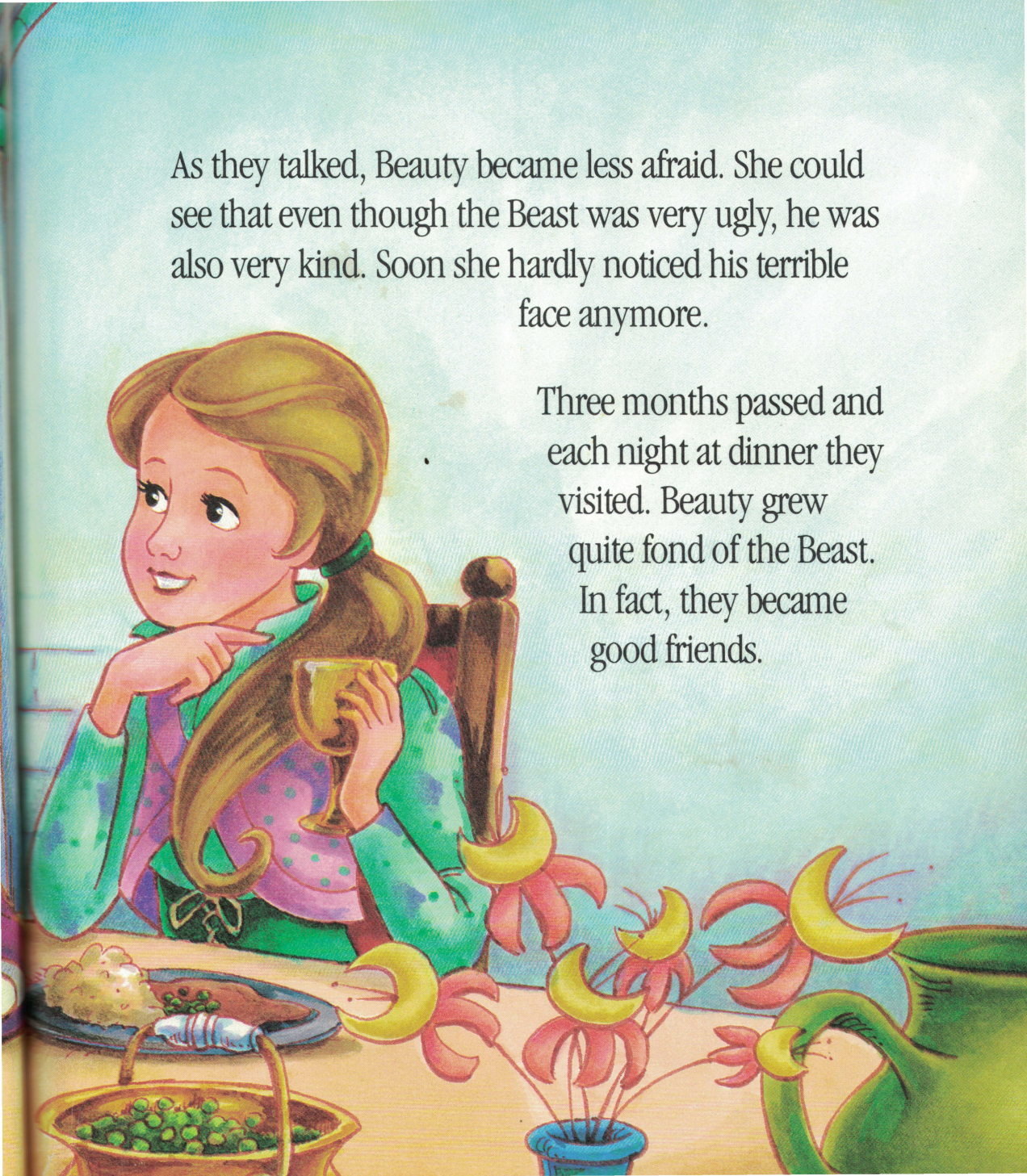


…Beauty insisted that she must be the one to go to the palace. The Merchant could not change her mind, no matter how hard he tried.



That evening a mysterious carriage arrived at the Merchant's house to take Beauty to the palace. When she got there Beauty could find no one at all.

As the great hall clock struck nine, Beauty saw that in the dining room a wonderful supper was set out. Beauty sat down to eat. Just then the Beast stepped into the room. Beauty was very frightened.



As they talked, Beauty became less afraid. She could see that even though the Beast was very ugly, he was also very kind. Soon she hardly noticed his terrible face anymore.

Three months passed and each night at dinner they visited. Beauty grew quite fond of the Beast. In fact, they became good friends.

"What Shall We Talk Of Now, My Friend?"

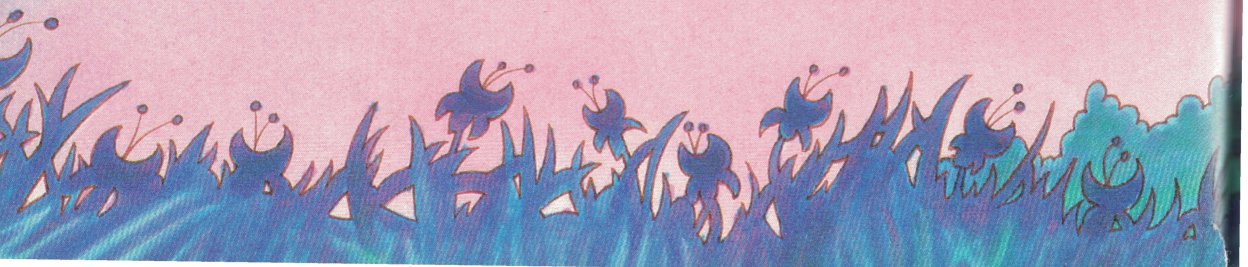
Our time apart is at an end.
Now we're together my dearest friend.
There are so many things to say.
This is always the very best part of the day.

–the day.
How did you pass the time today?

Today was lovely beyond compare.
The scent of flowers was in the air.
And great white clouds were in the sky.
I saw shapes I knew as they drifted by.

The clouds had shapes like things you knew?
On special days they often do.
A horse and a ship and a kangaroo–
When I see clouds, I'll think of you.

For hours and hours our talk extends.
It's like that when you're the best of friends.
Though in our seats we're safely curled,
We can magically reach any place in the world.

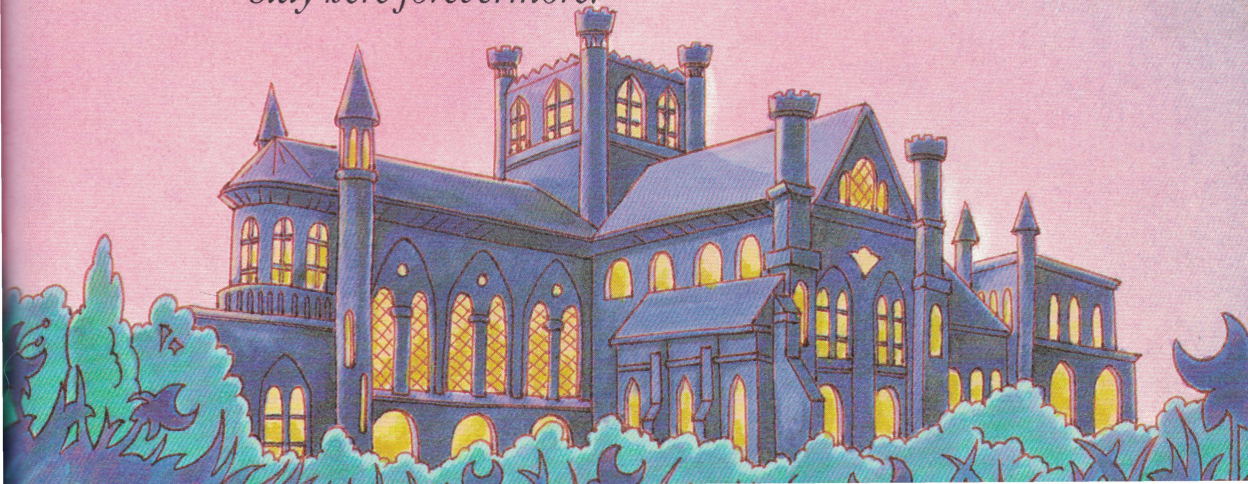


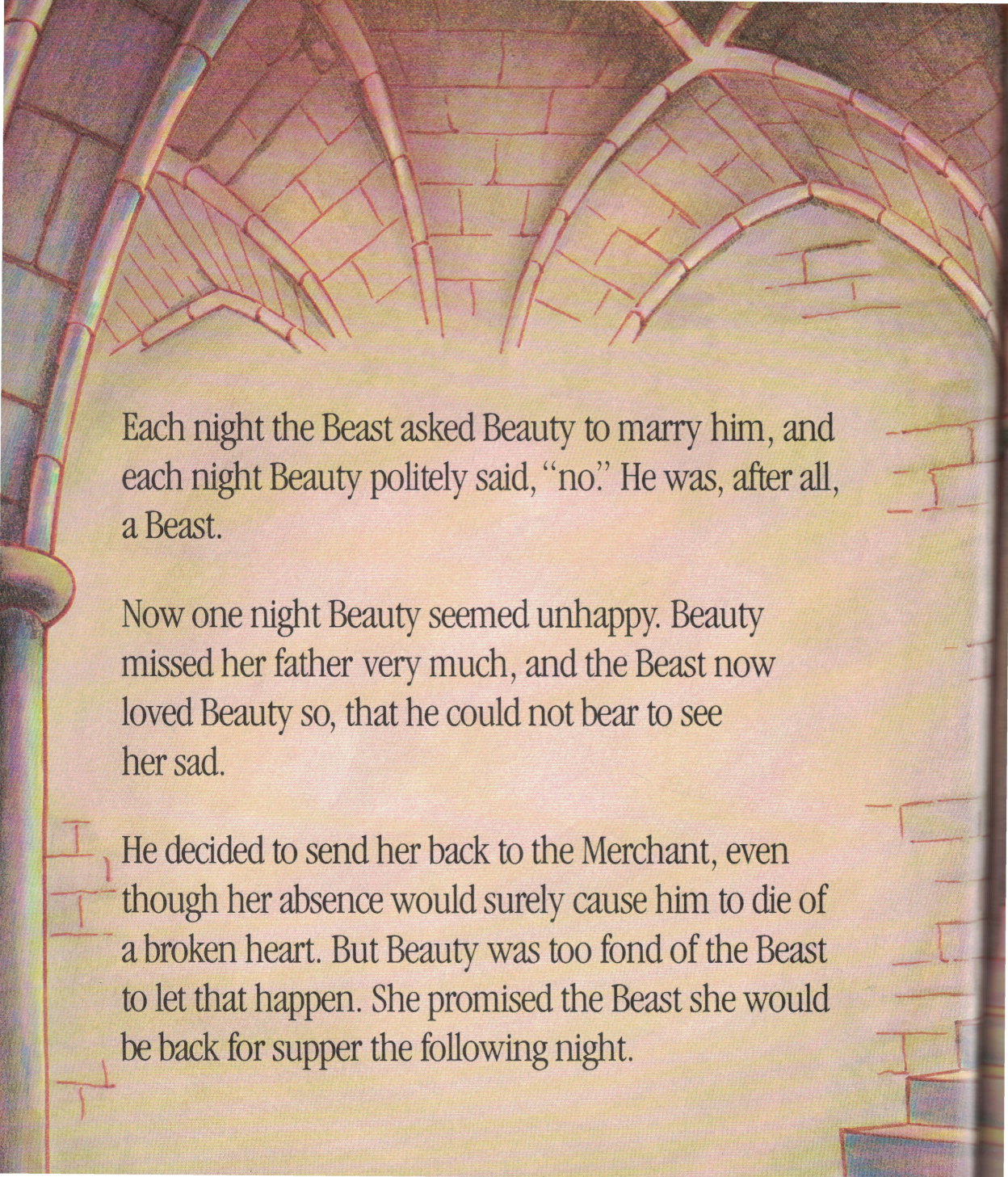
–the world.
Tell me some more about the world.

Quite far from here great oceans lie,
And mountain ranges that climb so high–
They're always covered deep in snow.
To which of these places would you like to go?

The snowy mountains or the sea?
Come my dear, which will it be?
They both sound very exciting to me.
I'll be your guide most happily.

Our conversations never end.
What shall we talk of now, my friend?
With so many subjects to explore–
I could easily stay here forevermore.
– forevermore.
Stay here forevermore.

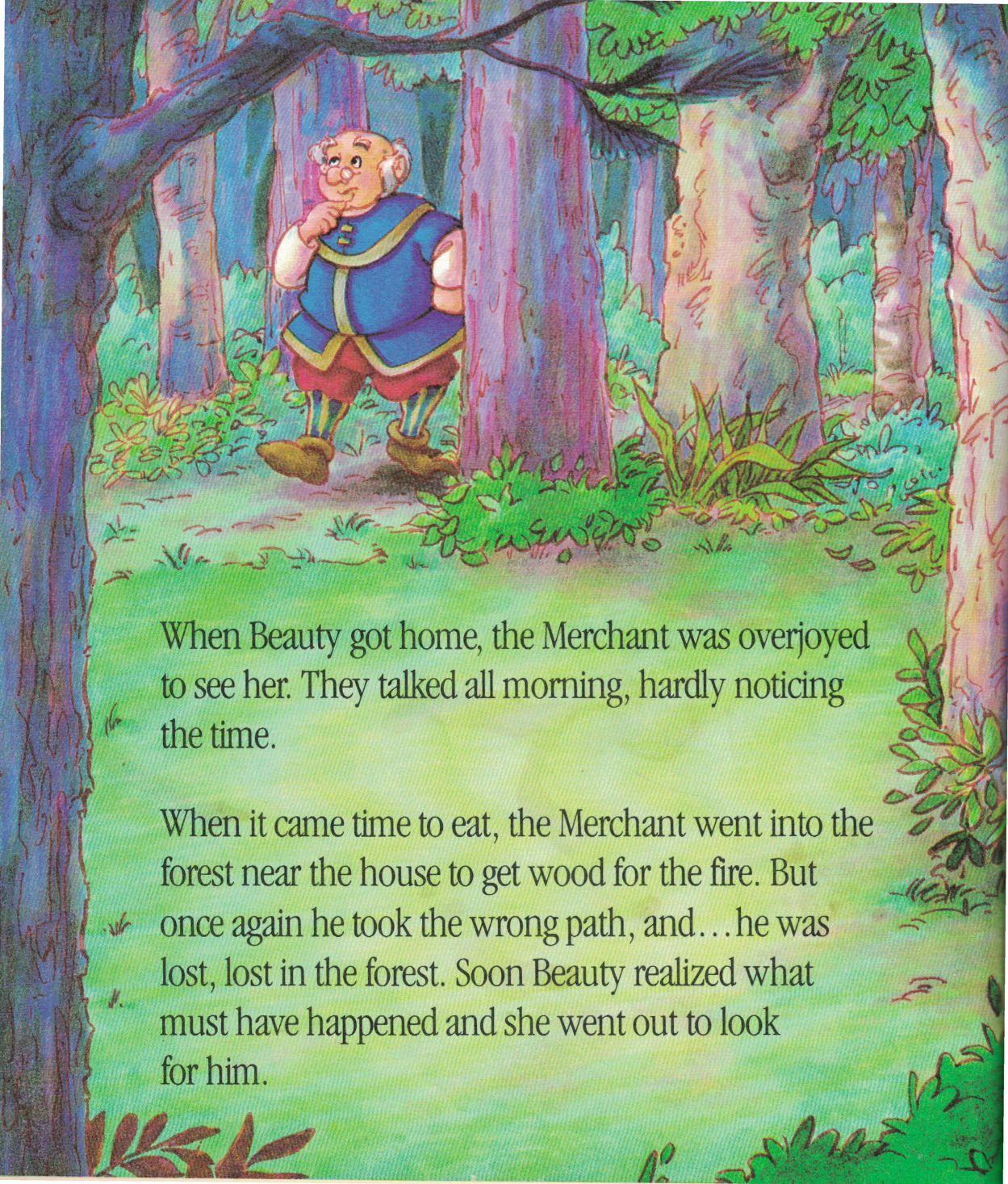




Each night the Beast asked Beauty to marry him, and each night Beauty politely said, "no." He was, after all, a Beast.

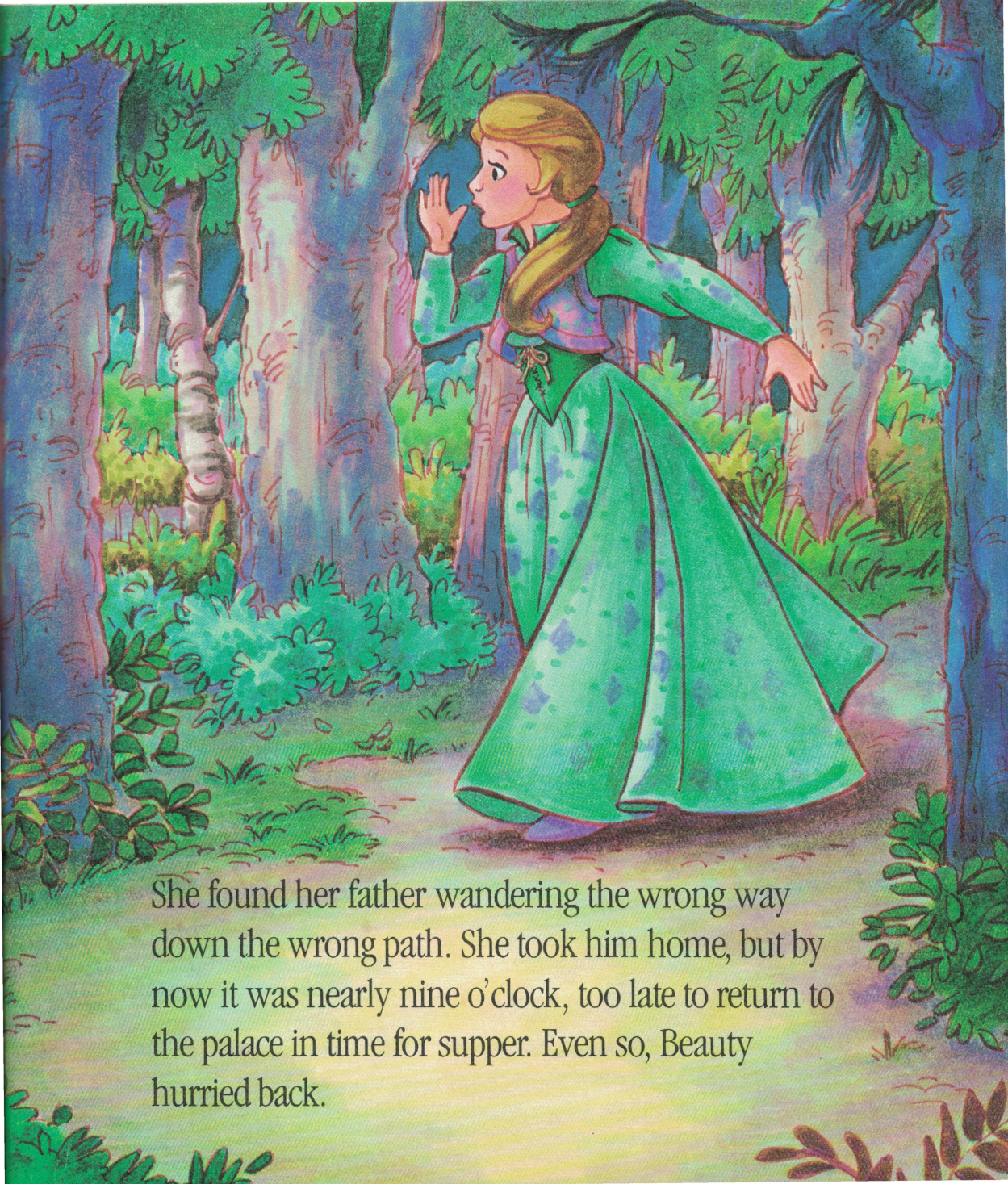
Now one night Beauty seemed unhappy. Beauty missed her father very much, and the Beast now loved Beauty so, that he could not bear to see her sad.

He decided to send her back to the Merchant, even though her absence would surely cause him to die of a broken heart. But Beauty was too fond of the Beast to let that happen. She promised the Beast she would be back for supper the following night.



When Beauty got home, the Merchant was overjoyed to see her. They talked all morning, hardly noticing the time.

When it came time to eat, the Merchant went into the forest near the house to get wood for the fire. But once again he took the wrong path, and…he was lost, lost in the forest. Soon Beauty realized what must have happened and she went out to look for him.



She found her father wandering the wrong way down the wrong path. She took him home, but by now it was nearly nine o'clock, too late to return to the palace in time for supper. Even so, Beauty hurried back.

When she got there, the Beast was nowhere to be found. Beauty looked everywhere. Then, at last, she found the Beast in the garden, lying near the Moonflowers.

Beauty now realized how much she loved the Beast, and she truly wanted to marry him.

Just then the garden filled with sparkling light and the Beast, lying in her arms, became a handsome prince. You see, the Prince had been under an evil spell–one that could only be broken if a maiden agreed to be his wife.

Now, even though her Beast was no longer ugly, Beauty loved him most of all for what he was on the inside and not on the outside.

"The Most Beautiful People Are Beautiful Inside"

When you first meet somebody new,
And you wonder how nice they'll be,
A small part of that someone is all you can see.
Do not look with your eyes alone;
Don't be hasty when you decide.
For the best part of someone is deep down inside.

Chorus

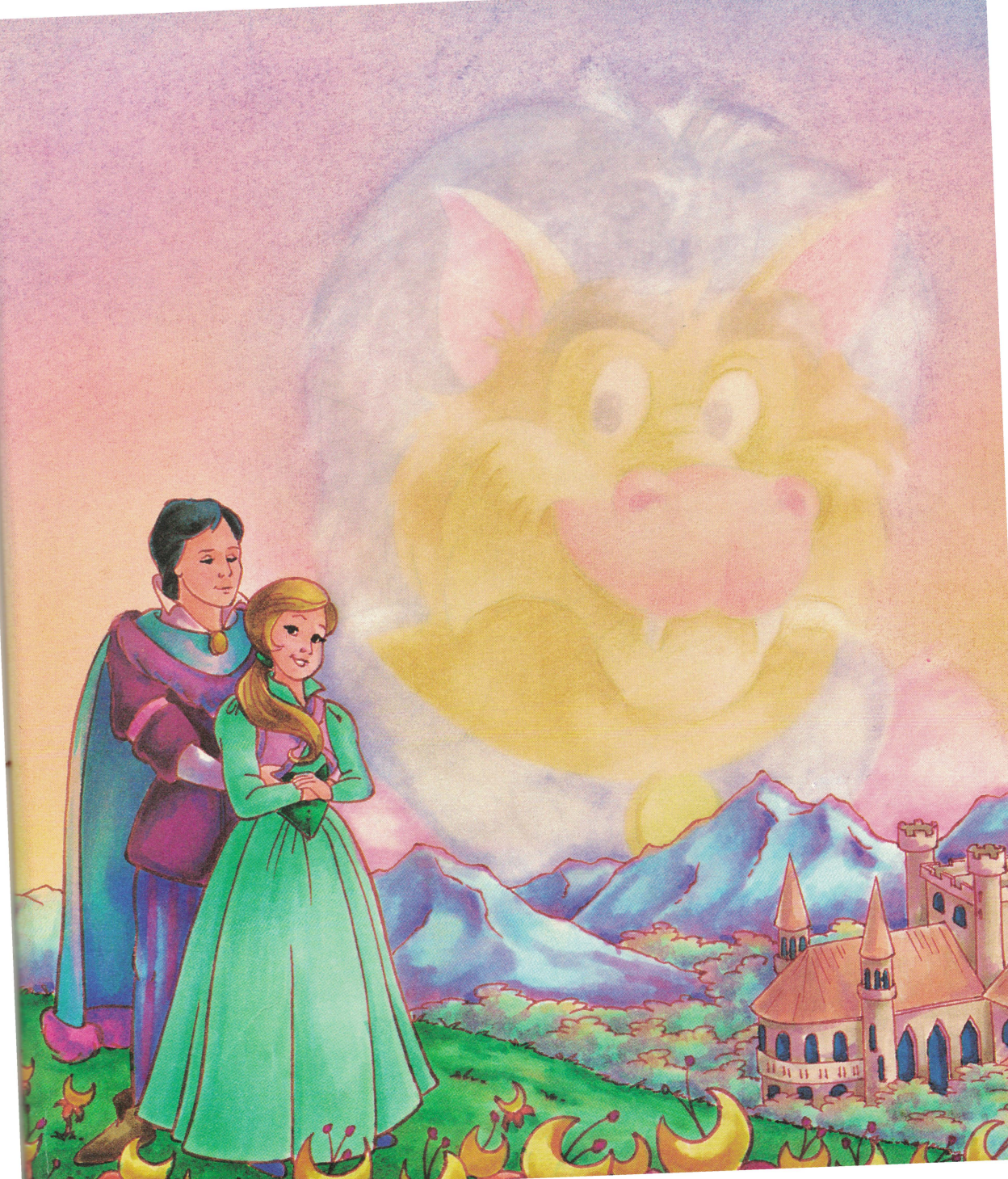
It's hard to judge books by their covers.
Who knows what the wrappings may hide?
Some treasures lie deeper than others.
The most beautiful people are beautiful inside.

So take a little time, and try not to be afraid,
And make some new friends that you might not have made.

Repeat Chorus

Soon the Merchant came to live with Beauty and her Prince in the palace.

And they all lived happily ever after.



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